



Teaching Tricky Grammar: Direct Speech

Takeaways from the video:

- A step-by-step guide to teaching direct speech
- Reference to key grammatical terminology including inverted commas, reporting clause, speech clause
- Teaching and learning examples that can be easily replicated for use with pupils

Press Pause Questions:

Slide 8

Can you add the correct punctuation to these sentences?

Would you like to go out to play asked Miss Joshi

It's my birthday on Saturday declared Mischa

Here are your keys, Mrs Jones said Patrick

Slide 11

Can you correct the mistakes in these sentences?

"Class 8 are going to the zoo," Said Sarah.

"Our class are doing a play." Simon announced.

Mrs Brown shouted. "Playtime's over."

Slide 14

Use the 'new speaker, new line' convention to complete this knock, knock joke as a conversation between two people:

Knock, knock

Who's there?

Canoe

Canoe, who?

Canoe help me with my homework!

Putting it into Practice

Find pictures of people talking. Ask children to imagine what they might be saying and to write it as speech. This could be done as speech bubbles or dialogue depending on the children's level of expertise.

Display sentences that include errors in the direct speech. Ask children to locate the errors and correct them.

Provide the class with a selection of knock, knock jokes. Ask them to use their knowledge of speech punctuation to write them as a conversation between two people.

Review Question

Find a simple playscript. Ask children to rewrite it as a conversation using direct speech.